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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/033,079	11/09/2001	Tadao Matsuzuki	SUZ-008	8698

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RONALD GRAIG FISH
RONALD CRAIG FISH, A LAW CORPORATION
POST OFFICE BOX 2258
MORGAN HILL, CA 95038

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, THU HA T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2155

DATE MAILED: 03/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/033,079

Applicant(s)

MATSUZUKI, TADAO

Examiner

Thu Ha T. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims **1-12** are presented for examination.
2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1, 11, and 12 are objected to because of the following informalities:
Claims 1, 11, and 12 recited the limitations "the number of computers". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

Claim 12 recited the limitation "the network information". There is lack of antecedent basis for this limitation in claim 12.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-4 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by **Kawada et al.** (hereinafter Kawada) U.S. Patent No. **6,804,710**.

6. As to claim 1, **Kawada** teaches the invention as claimed, including a network building method comprising the following steps of:

setting regional information using a computer (col. 4, lines 52-62);

setting place information using the computer at the region (figures 1, 11, col. 4, lines 52-62);

setting information on the number of computers used at the place (figure 1, col. 4, lines 52-col. 5, lines 56);

setting at least address and identification information of a plurality of the computers (abstract, col. 2, lines 17-38);

setting a parent computer of the computers used at each place (figures 1, 11, col. 4, lines 52-62);

setting at least one grand computer of the computers used at each place (figures 1, 11, col. 4, lines 4, lines 52-62);

setting information reception channel information of the grand computer (figures 1, 8, col. 10, lines 51-60, col. 11, lines 48-54, col. 13, lines 55-62);

setting information transmission channel information of a child computer depending on the grand computer (figure 1, col. 9, lines 12-col. 10, lines 67);

setting information transmission and reception channel information of the parent computer (figures 1, 8, col. 10, lines 51-67);

setting information transmission channel information of a child computer depending on the parent computer (figures 1, 8, col. 9, lines 12-col. 10, lines 67); and

setting this information as network information (abstract, figure 1).

The setting information transmission and reception channel information deems to be inherent with the system because Kawada discloses the relationship between the head office management server, branch office management server, department management server and terminals connection in the department as a grand or ancestor computer, parent computer and child computer relationship or as a tree/hierarchical relationship. This tree or hierarchical relationship can send and receive network information between nodes or computers, thus the system is inherently has to have a path/link/channel that network data can flow between them.

7. As to claim 2, **Kawada** teaches the invention as claimed, wherein the network information is delivered to each computer via communication means (figure 2).

8. As to claim 3, **Kawada** teaches the invention as claimed, wherein the network information made by the network building method is recorded to a disk freely removable to a computer, and is distributed to each computer (figure 2, col. 5, lines 65-col. 6, lines 58).

9. As to claim 4, **Kawada** teaches the invention as claimed, wherein the network information further includes operation limit information with respect to each computer (abstract).

10. As to claim 11, **Kawada** teaches the invention as claimed, including a network building apparatus for building network information in which child computer information is transmitted to a parent computer of the child computer, and parent computer information is transmitted to a grand computer (figure 1), comprising:

regional information storage means for setting regional information using a computer (col. 4, lines 52-62);

regional information storage means for setting place information using the computer at the region (figures 1, 11, col. 4, lines 52-62);

computer number storage means for setting information on the number of computers used at the place (figure 1, col. 4, lines 52-col. 5, lines 56);

identification information storage means for setting at least address and identification information of a plurality of the computers (abstract, col. 2, lines 17-38);

parent computer information storage means for setting a parent computer of the computers used at each place (figures 1, 11, col. 4, lines 52-62);

grand computer information storage means for setting at least one grand computer of the computers used at each place (figures 1, 11, col. 4, lines 4, lines 52-62);

reception channel information storage means of the grand computer (figures 1, 8, col. 10, lines 51-60, col. 11, lines 48-54, col. 13, lines 55-62);

transmission channel information storage means of a child computer depending on the grand computer (figure 1, col. 9, lines 12-col. 10, lines 67);

information transmission and reception channel storage means of the parent computer (figures 1, 8, col. 10, lines 51-67);

transmission channel information storage means of a child computer depending on the parent computer (figures 1, 8, col. 9, lines 12-col. 10, lines 67); and

means for delivering network information stored in each storage means (abstract, figure 1).

The setting information transmission and reception channel information deems to be inherent with the system because Kawada discloses the relationship between the head office management server, branch office management server, department management server and terminals connection in the department as a grand or ancestor computer, parent computer and child computer relationship or as a tree/hierarchical relationship. This tree or hierarchical relationship can send and receive network information between nodes or computers, thus the system is inherently has to have a path/link/channel that network data can flow between them.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 5-9 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over **Kawada et al.** (hereinafter **Kawada**) U.S. Patent No. **6,804,710**, in view of **Eder** U.S. Pub. No. **2004/0210509**.

13. As to claim 5, **Kawada** does not explicitly teach the invention as claimed; however, **Eder** teaches wherein file specific information of a transmission file to be by each computer exists in addition to the network information (paragraphs 0075, 0083). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teachings of **Kawada and Eder** to include a transmission file because it would have an efficient communication system that the document/information as a file related to company or organization is provided to customers/users/employee.

14. As to claim 6, **Kawada** does not explicitly teach the invention as claimed; however, **Eder** teaches wherein the file specific information of a transmission file includes at least balance sheet database, profit and loss statement database (paragraphs 0079, 0086). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teachings of **Kawada and Eder** to have the same motivation as set forth in claim 5.

15. As to claim 7, **Kawada** teaches the invention as claimed, wherein limit information for a limiting data processing content of each computer exists in addition to the network information (abstract, col. 5, lines 65-col. 6, lines 61).

16. As to claim 8, **Kawada** does not explicitly teach a work sheet being used. However, **Eder** teaches wherein the limit information is limit information relating to a work sheet being used (paragraphs 0075, 0083). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teachings of **Kawada and Eder** to include a transmission file because it would have an efficient communication system that the document/information as a file related to company or organization is provided to customers/users/employee.

17. As to claim 9, **Eder** teaches the invention as claimed, wherein check information to be checked exists in data processing of each computer in addition to the network information (paragraphs 0078-0080, 0083).

18. As to claim 10, **Eder** teaches the invention as claimed, wherein the check information is check information indicative of organization and/or authority of person in charge (paragraphs 0078-0080, 0083). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teachings of **Kawada and Eder** to include a record of all employee of a organization or company in order easy to update and keep track the company status/activities.

19. As to claim 12, **Kawada** teaches the invention as claimed, including a management report acquiring method for building network information in which child computer information is transmitted to a parent computer of the child computer, and parent computer information is transmitted to a grand computer, comprising the following steps of:

setting regional information using a computer (col. 4, lines 52-62);

setting place information using the computer at the region (figures 1, 11, col. 4, lines 52-62);

setting information on the number of computers used at the place (figure 1, col. 4, lines 52-col. 5, lines 56);

setting at least address and identification information of a plurality of the computers (abstract, col. 2, lines 17-38);

setting a parent computer of the computers used at each place (figures 1, 11, col. 4, lines 52-62);

setting at least one grand computer of the computers used at each place (figures 1, 11, col. 4, lines 4, lines 52-62);

setting information reception channel information of the grand computer (figures 1, 8, col. 10, lines 51-60, col. 11, lines 48-54, col. 13, lines 55-62);

setting information transmission channel information of a child computer depending on the grand computer (figure 1, col. 9, lines 12-col. 10, lines 67);

setting information transmission and reception channel information of the parent computer (figures 1, 8, col. 10, lines 51-67);

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setting information transmission channel information of a child computer depending on the parent computer (figures 1, 8, col. 9, lines 12-col. 10, lines 67); and setting transmission file information including the network information to be transmitted by each computer (abstract, figure 1).

The setting information transmission and reception channel information deems to be inherent with the system because Kawada discloses the relationship between the head office management server, branch office management server, department management server and terminals connection in the department as a grand or ancestor computer, parent computer and child computer relationship or as a tree/hierarchical relationship. This tree or hierarchical relationship can send and receive network information between nodes or computers, thus the system is inherently has to have a path/link/channel that network data can flow between them)

However, **Kawada** does not explicitly teach transmission file information including a company management status data. **Eder** teaches transmission file information including a company management status data (figures 1, 4, paragraphs 0048-0050, 0055, 0079-0083). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teachings of **Kawada and Eder** to include the feature of transmission a company management status data because it would have an efficient communication system that can improve and keep track company status/activities.

Conclusion

20. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

21. Battat et al. (USPN 6,289,380), Messenger (USPN 6,697,365), Falco et al. (US. Pub. No. 2005/0007964), Sun et al. (USPN 6,704,282), Lewis et al. (USPN 6,243,747), Tamatsu et al. (US. Pub. No. 2004/0162771), Fenger et al. (USPN 6,751,659), Carleton (US. Pub. No. 2001/0044840), Kondo et al. (USPN 5,586,254) are recited for disclosing various information related to the claimed invention. Applicants are requested to consider these prior art references when responding to this office action.

22. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thu Ha Nguyen, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3989. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T. Alam, can be reached at (571) 272-3978.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications.

Thu Ha Nguyen

March 9, 2005


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISOR, PATENT EXAMINER